

4 August 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Interface Problems -- Chip Printer and Chip Processor

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1. The contract for a Specific Format Chip Printer with [REDACTED] is to result in the design, fabrication and delivery of an operational chip printer. The work "operational" is stressed here as it is felt that sufficient knowledge and experience has been gained in the past through other chip systems to enable bypassing the breadboard or prototype phase in the development cycle of a chip printer. Concurrently, a contract with [REDACTED] to develop a prototype chip processor is being carried out.

2. The printer, presently in the Preliminary Design phase, is intended to produce high-resolution cut film chips of selected areas for interpretation and mensuration. The proposed design will simply place the exposed film into a hopper for subsequent transfer to the processor. The processor design requires the film chips to be contained in a mount for transport through the chemical, wash, and drier.

3. A meeting has been set-up between [REDACTED] and NPIC representatives to discuss methods of handling the chip in the printer for subsequent transfer to the processor. It is anticipated this will result in a proposal from one or both companies for a handling mechanism to load the film chips into the mounts required by the processor. Ideally, a vertical magazine containing x number of empty mounts on an elevator mechanism in the printer actuated so that each chip, as it is printed, is placed in a mount, then the magazine, when full, or when desired, can be lifted out of the printer and placed in a similar receptacle on the processor. At present the mount design is unknown. However, it is anticipated the [REDACTED] representative will have sufficient data at the time of the planned meeting to enable logical planning as to handling methods.

4. The meeting is presently scheduled for 12 August 1964 at the Washington office of [REDACTED]. This appointment place was decided upon when it was disclosed that the chief designer and manufacturer of the processor is of [REDACTED] origin and whose plant is located in [REDACTED]. He does not hold any Agency clearances. [REDACTED]

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